IAMES by the grace of God King of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, defender of the faith, &c. To all and singuler Archbishops, Bishops, Archdeacons, Deanes, and their officials, Parsons, Vicars, Curats, and to all spirituall persons, And also Justices of Peace, Maiors, Sheriffes, Bayliffes, Constables, Churchwardens, and headboroughes, and to all officers of Cities, boroughes, and townes corporate, and to all other our officers, Ministers, and Subiects, whatsoeuer they be aswell within liberties as without to whom these presents shall come greeting. VVhereas we are very credibly giuen to vnderstande that our poore subiect, VVilliam Nevell being a gentleman of a good house and heretofore of faire possessions and lands, is at this present fallen into great want and pouertie, by reason of exceeding great losses which himselfe receiued by casualtie of fire, sundry robberies, and other occasions made knowne vnto vs amounting vnto the value of fifteene hundred pounds and vpwardes, to the vtter vndoing of our said poore subiect his wife and children being now altogither destitute of any meanes of liuing or habillity to maintaine himselfe his wife and children except hee bee charitably holpen and relieued by the good deuotion and beneuolence of well disposed people in that behalfe. Know yee, therefore that we tendering the poore & miserable estate of our saide poore subiect of our especiall grace and Princely compassion haue giuen and graunted, and by these our letters patents doe giue and grant vnto our said subiect VVilliam Nevell and to his deputie the bearer hereof, full power, licence and authority to aske, gather, receiue and take the almes and charitable benevolence of all our louing subiects whatsoeuer, inhabiting within our Counties of Barksh. Oxford, VVorcester, VVarwick, Leicester, Stafford, Derby, Yorke, Lincolne, Norffolke, and Suffolke, with our cities of Yorke and Coventry, and in all other Cities Townes corporate priuiledged places, parishes, villages and in al other places whatsoeuer within our said counties and not elsewhere for and toward the relieue and maintenance of our said poore subiect his wife and children. VVherefore we will and command you and euerie of you that at such time and times as the saide William Nevell or his deputie the bearer hereof shall come and repaire to any your churches or other places to aske and receiue the gratuities and charitable beneuolence of our said subiects, quietly to permit and suffer them so to do without any manner your lets or contradictions. And you the saide Parsons Vicars and Curats, for the better stirring vp of a charitable deuotion deliberatly to publish and declare the tennor of these our letters patents vnto our saide subiects exhorting and perswading them to extende their liberall contributions in so good and charitable a deed, And you the churchwardens of everie parish where such collection shall be made as aforesaid to collect and gather the almes of our said subiects, And the same so gathered to deliuer it to the said William Nevell or to his deputy when you shal be thereunto required, Any statute, law, ordinance, or prouision heretofore made to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding. In witnesse whereof we haue caused these our letters to be made patents for the space of one whole yeare next after the date hereof to indure; witnesse our selfe at Westminister the last day of Iune in the fift yeare of our Raigne of England, France, and Ireland, and of Scotland, the fortith.

STYWARD.

God saue the King.

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